

Message Text

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FOR IBS/NCA COVERAGE, IBS/PA, IOR/M, IPS

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: SOMALIA'S RURAL DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN CLOSES

ALL SOMALI MEDIA MARCH 8, 1975 REPORTED THE OFFICIAL CLOSING OF SOMALIA'S RURAL DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN (RDC) WHICH LASTED SEVEN MONTHS. EXCERPTS AS FOLLOWS: (BEGIN EXCERPTS) SOMALI PRESIDENT SIYAD WHO CLOSED THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN (RDC) AT A MASS RALLY HELD IN MOGADISCIO AT CONS STADIUM MARCH 7, TO AN AUDIENCE OF THOUSANDS OF RDC WORKERS SAID THE CAMPAIGN SUCCEEDED IN BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN THE RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION AND PAVED THE WAY FOR A CONTINUING TWO-WAY FLOW OF IDEAS AND VALUES...

THE PRESIDENT SAID THE WORKERS OF THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN INFLICTED IRREPARABLE DAMAGE TO THE ARCH ENEMIES OF MANKIND --ILLITERACY, HUNGER AND DISEASE -- DURING THE SEVEN MONTHS INTENSIVE CAMPAIGN CARRIED ON THROUGHOUT THE LENGTH AND BREADTH OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC...

HE ALSO SAID THE CAMPAIGN HAS GREATLY STRENGTHENED SOMALIA'S UNITY, EQUALITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND THAT THE PROPHETS OF DOOM WHO PREDICTED A COMPLETE FAILURE FOR THE RDC HAVE BEEN PROVEN WRONG...

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THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN BE-
GAN LAST AUGUST AND COVERED
ALPHABETIZATION PROGRAMS, A LIVESTOCK AND POPULATION CENSUS,
VACCINATIONS AND GENERAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE HEALTH INSTITUTIONS
OF THE COUNTRYSIDE...

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT
CAMPAIGN, LT. COL. ABDIRAZAK MOHAMOUD ABUBAKAR SAID, 1,257,779
SOMALIS WERE TAUGHT HOW TO READ AND WRITE, 1,614,261 PERSONS WERE
TREATED FOR VARIOUS DISEASES AND 11,048,176 HEADS OF CATTLE WERE
VACCINATED.

LT. COL. ABDIRAZAK ALSO SAID AN ARMY OF STUDENTS AND WORKERS,
TOTALING 125,000 TOOK PART IN THE CAMPAIGN AND HE PUT THE TOTAL
EXPENDITURE AT 78,000,000 SOMALI SHILLINGS (\$12.6 MILLION).
AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY, TWO GOLD MEDALS, ONE SILVER MEDAL,
107 BRONZE MEDALS AND 2,000 CERTIFICATES OF HONOR, (FIRST
CLASS) AND 3,000 (SECOND CLASS) WERE PRESENTED TO VARIOUS
STUDENTS AND WORKERS OF THE CAMPAIGN...(END EXCERPTS).
MACK

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